



First Responder Network Authority Weekly Update to the State and Territory Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – October 13, 2015

FirstNet News

- On Friday, FirstNet extended the deadline for comments on a [Special Notice](#) requesting feedback from stakeholders on Appendix C-10 NPSBN Cyber Security that will inform the development of the cyber security portions of the RFP. **Comments may be submitted via email no later than 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, October 21, 2015.**
- Last week, FirstNet hosted the Fall 2015 SPOC Meeting in Westminster, CO, with more than 125 attendees from 51 states and territories, including eight PSAC Tribal Working Group members and two PSAC Executive Committee members. Presentations and discussions covered a range of topics, including next steps in the RFP process, consultation and outreach in 2016, and State Plans. Presentations from the meeting will be distributed to attendees this week, and a meeting summary will be distributed in the coming weeks.
- The initial data collection deadline was September 30. As of October 9, we have received 10,800+ survey responses from 47 states and territories covering 1.3 million potential users. We are still working with the remaining states and territories to get their submissions. We also received submissions from 7 federal agencies and will continue to work with other agencies on data collection.
- This week, FirstNet will participate in the National Association of Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) annual conference and the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) Fall meeting.
- In addition to the Fall 2015 SPOC Meeting (see above), FirstNet participated last week in the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators (NCNASL) staff meeting.
- To date, FirstNet has held 52 initial State consultation meetings involving more than 3,500 public safety representatives. Future consultations are confirmed for: Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (10/20), Guam (10/22), and Oklahoma (10/28). An updated schedule can be viewed on the [website tracker](#).
- FirstNet is accepting applications for the Region 4 Lead, which closes October 21:
Supervisory Emergency Management Specialist (Public Safety) (ZP-0089-05)
This is a remote worker position, the employee will telework full-time from their residence; therefore, applicants must reside, or be willing to relocate at their own expense, to one of the counties or cities within the Region 4 states.
Location: Montgomery County, AL; Tallahassee, FL; Atlanta, GA; Frankfort, KY; Jackson County, MS; Raleigh, NC; Columbia, SC; and Nashville, TN
Link to vacancy announcement: [NTIA-FRNA-2016-0009](#)

News from the PSAC, States, and Territories

- Iowa is continuing work with a diverse range of public safety responders and managers within the state via six regional workshops to identify priorities for use of the NPSBN. A [recent blog](#) recaps the latest event held September 30. These full day, interactive workshops are designed to further the progress of FirstNet in Iowa using scenario based table-top discussions. Connect Iowa completed training in all 99 Iowa counties, and the interactive workshops represent the second phase of FirstNet education efforts.

Media Watch

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Traditional Media

Media coverage continued to focus on the recent FirstNet Board meeting. A number of trade publications that cover public safety, telecom, and federal IT procurement reported on RFP-related decisions, including the national approach, and final legal interpretations. Also this week, the release of the cyber security Special Notice drew significant media coverage.

Urgent Communications: FirstNet Extends Comment Period On Cybersecurity Public Notice To Oct. 21

<http://urgentcomm.com/cybersecurity/firstnet-extends-comment-period-cybersecurity-public-notice-oct-21>

Those wanting to respond to FirstNet's cybersecurity public notice will have an extra weekend and three business days to prepare their filings, as FirstNet extended the submission deadline in the proceeding to 1 p.m. Eastern time on Wednesday, Oct. 21.

Radio Resource/Mission Critical: FirstNet Releases Cybersecurity Special Notice, Comments Due Oct. 16

<http://www.mccmag.com/News/NewsDetails/NewsID/13494>

FirstNet is requesting feedback from stakeholders, including states, tribes, territories, public-safety stakeholders and market participants on "The Cyber Security Special Notice and draft Appendix C-10, Cyber Security," which will inform the development of the cybersecurity portions of the RFP.

National Law Review: FirstNet Approves RFP Elements

<http://www.natlawreview.com/article/firstnet-approves-rfp-elements-vhf-mobile-repeaters-railroad-police-public-safety>

Last week, the FirstNet Board met and approved two important resolutions. In Resolution 69, the Board approved final legal interpretation of key provisions of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, including the definition of the term "rural."

Urgent Communications: FirstNet Says Opt-Out States Must Share Revenues, Meet Nationwide Network Policies

<http://urgentcomm.com/ntiafirstnet/firstnet-says-opt-out-states-must-share-revenues-meet-nationwide-network-policies>

A state or territory that chooses the FirstNet opt-out alternative—thereby agreeing to build out the LTE radio access network (RAN) in its jurisdiction—will have to comply with all of FirstNet’s nationwide network policies and will not be able to keep all revenues generated within its boundaries, according to final legal interpretations approved by the FirstNet board.

Web and Social Media

FirstNet was an active topic on social media this week, with the cyber security special notice and SPOC meeting generating discussion over twitter. The FirstNet Twitter account continued to gain about 30 followers a week, and this week moved from 2,728 to 2,754 followers; LinkedIn increased to 1,016 users; YouTube has 166 subscribers; and Google+ has 56 users.

FirstNet posted three blog entries this week covering the SPOC meeting, the cyber security Special Notice, and NTIA research regarding voice communications for first responders: [FirstNet Releases Cyber Security Special Notice, Aims To Build Usability, Security Early into NPSBN](#) by TJ Kennedy; and [New Research Details Ways to Improve Voice Quality of Emergency Communications](#) by the NTIA Director of the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences in September 2015. All FirstNet blog posts can also be accessed through the FirstNet blog landing page at: www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog.

NTCA-The Rural Broadband Association CEO Shirley Bloomfield posted a blog about FirstNet progress called “[FirstNet Possibly on the Right Track](#),” in which she discusses FirstNet’s recent outreach to rural communities about the NPSBN.